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ИНТЕЛЛЕКТУАЛЬНОЙ СОБСТВЕННОСТИ**

PCT

February 13, 2004

*Re: International Application No. PCT/IB99/01929  
(filed on December 3, 1999)*

Dear Mr. Anderson,

In response to your facsimile of December 23, 2003, I have the following comments. I apologize for the delay in responding.

The time limit to correct priority claims during the international phase with the International Bureau is, according to PCT Rule 26bis, "16 months from the priority date or, where the correction or addition would cause a change in the priority date, 16 months from the priority date as so changed, whichever 16-month period expires first, provided that such a notice may be submitted until the expiration of four months from the international filing date". For the above-referenced international application the calculation of this time limit would yield the date of November 7, 2000.

Mr. Jeffrey D. Anderson  
McDonnell, Boehnen,  
Hulbert & Berghoff  
300 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606-6709  
United States of America

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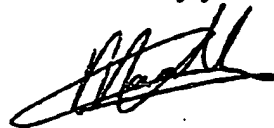
Mr. Jeffrey D. Anderson, McDonnell, Boehnen, Hulbert & Berghoff, Chicago -  
February 13, 2004

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According to our records, the priority documents were not furnished to the International Bureau. Having not complied with the time limit under Rule 26*bis*, there is no additional basis under the PCT through which your priority claim indications can be corrected. You will have to pursue this matter exclusively in the national phase before the USPTO.

I hope that this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,



Mirjam Cavalleri  
Assistant Program Officer  
PCT Legal Affairs Section  
PCT Legal Service